

September 25, 1992

CD-92-15 (LDV)

Dear Manufacturer:

The Certification Division of EPA announces the availability of the first portion of the 1994 model year data supplement which describes many of the computer input forms which are applicable to the 1994 Certification and Fuel Economy Programs. This information is applicable to the 1994 model year and beyond. Information pertaining to the 1993 and earlier model years will continue to use the existing data systems. Enclosed with this letter are copies of the new computer formats and a condensed version of the field-by-field instructions on the back of the corresponding form.

The data supplement contains complete information on the car/truck line, engine system, shift schedule, and vehicle information computer systems. Several systems are still being developed by EPA; for the manufacturer's test data, summary sheet, and running change systems the data supplement contains only the data forms and basic instructions. The measured fuel properties system is not expected to change for gasoline fueled vehicles, however, modifications will be necessary for alternative fueled vehicles. These additional areas will be covered more fully in the second portion of the data supplement which is expected in a couple of months.

EPA will begin accepting information for the 1994 model year according to the following schedule:

Car/Truckline Information	October 13
Engine System Information	
Hard copy data	Available now
Electronic Submissions	October 1
Vehicle Information	October 13

Measured Fuel Properties

For Gasoline	Available now
For Alternative Fuels	October 13

Manufacturer Test Data	To be determined
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Running Changes	To be determined
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Summary Sheet	To be determined
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The new computer formats and the associated software are significantly different than the previous versions. These changes were necessary to accommodate the new standards and different test procedures required under the Clean Air Act mandates. Significant effort was made to make the forms as easy to complete as possible. Much redundant information has been eliminated from the current versions of the forms and the software was enhanced to make appropriate default choices whenever possible. The new EPA standardized name allows the computer programs to choose the appropriate standards and vehicle classification for compliance purposes. Override options are provided to handle special cases. Unfortunately, some of the special cases mandated by Congress add complexity to the existing formats and computer systems.

Because some of these data systems are quite different from previous versions, it is not possible to reference data from the previous computer system (referencing of computer data (I.E. "Carryover") within the new system will be supported and is encouraged). Previously entered data from the old system must be entered again in the new formats.

The data supplement contains extensive descriptions of all the fields and possible values of the data. A complete list of possible error messages and likely corrections are included in the package. The data supplement is intended to be used as a resource to look-up special cases. To discuss all the special cases and provide complete documentation, the data supplement has grown in length beyond that which is practical to provide to all users in a printed format. EPA is providing the following methods to consult the information.

1. The information is available on floppy disks in the IBM PC Word Perfect 5.1 format. If you would like this format, contact Mr. John Hendon at (313) 668-4383.

2. There are several lending copies available for inspection and for a one week withdrawal from our Library. Contact our contractor librarian Ms Debra Talsma at (313) 668-4311.

3. The field-by-field instructions have been published on the OAQPS (Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards) Technical Transfer Network bulletin board system and it can be down-loaded to your computer or accessed on an as-needed basis. We anticipate that this will serve as a basic on-line reference capability. For information in accessing the information in this fashion, please contact Mr. John Hendon.

4. Lastly, updates and corrections will be published on the MTS computer systems as soon as they are available. They will be stored in a file named SAQM:DS-UPDATE. They will also be available on the bulletin board system identified above.

EPA is also working on a "lite" version of the database instructions that will contain background information and basic instructions for completing the computer forms. This version will be available shortly after the development is finished on the test data and summary sheet data systems. It will be distributed with the second portion of the data supplement.

EPA will host a workshop to discuss the forms and answer questions on October 19, 1992 at 1:30 PM. This workshop will be designed for people working directly with the computer data submission. A list of advance questions would be appreciated by October 9, additional questions will be answered from the floor.

If you have any questions on this information please contact your team representative or the contact person specified in the data supplement for the data system in question.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Maxwell, Director
Certification Division

Forms are stored as CD9215-1.pcx through CD921528.pcx, respectively.